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TAGS: [PREL](#) [EU](#) [BK](#) [LG](#)
SUBJECT: LATVIA AND EUFOR IN BOSNIA: NO OFFICIAL POSITION BUT
LIKELY TO SUPPORT USG POSITION

REF: SECSTATE 118244

Pol/Econ Off delivered reftel demarche to Indulis Abelis, the director of the Latvian MFA's European Department. Mr. Abelis said that although he believed Latvia would support continuing EUFOR's mission in Bosnia at its current force level, he was unable to provide the official Latvian position at that time. He also noted that Latvia withdrew its last two soldiers from Bosnia in October 2009. Note: Latvia will likely continue to join EU consensus on EUFOR, as its troop withdrawal removed its stake in this issue. Latvia's contribution of 175 troops to Afghanistan requires the full attention of the Defense Ministry, hard-pressed by the budget cuts caused by the severe Latvian economic crisis.